and strengthening Small, Tiny and Village Enterprises, which were announced by the Government on 6th August, 1991. The Government continues to lay emphasis on meeting the concerns of the small & tiny sectors.

(c) and (d) Promotion of Small Scale Industries and Tiny Sectors has been one of the conscious policies of the Government. A large number of schemes are being implemented for their promotion: these include technology upgradation, market development, entrepreneurship development, infrastructure development and creating of LT. infrastructure. SSI Credit comes under the priority sector lending of the banks. 60% of the priority sector credit going to SSI Sector is reserved for tiny units. In addition, several measures have been announced in the Budget 2000-2001 to improve the supply of credit to this sector. These include raising the limit of loan without collateral from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 5 lakhs, doubling the quantum of Single Window Composite Loan (both term loan and working capital) from Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs, extending the operation of Technology Development and Modernization Fund Scheme by another 3 years and the Credit Guaranteed Scheme for loans up to Rs. 10 lakhs to the tiny sector entrepreneurs.

KVIC in Punjab

2434. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Punjab where people have been engaged by the KVIC;

(b) the details of villages where KVIC, is making production and workers employed; and

(c) whether there is any proposal for expansion of such industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) and (b) In 12428 villages of Punjab, 1.73 lakh people have been engaged in production of Khadi and Village industries.

(c) No, Sir. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) encourages setting up of all industries except for a small negative list.

Khadi and Village Industries in Andhra Pradesh

2435. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of weavers and other workers depending on Khadi and Village Industries in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Khadi industry is in a financial wrap; and

(c) if so, the steps taken and proposed to protect and popularise Khadi in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh to protect the weavers dependent on Khadi Industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) about 34,000 workers are engaged in Khadi programme including polyvastra and 3.26 lakhs workers (approx.) are engaged in village industries in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Specific Programme to Promote Rural Industries

† 2436. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to formulate a specific programme to promote rural industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.